

**Great Platte River Road
Memorial Foundation**

**Audit of Financial Statements
For the Year Ended
December 31, 2009**

**BUCKLEY & SITZMAN CPA's
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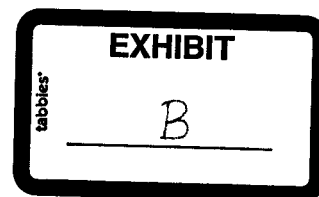


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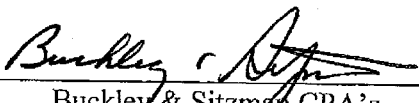
Independent Auditors' Report

The Board of Directors
Great Platte River Road Memorial Foundation

We audited the accompanying statement of financial position of the Great Platte River Road Memorial Foundation (the Foundation) as of December 31, 2009 and the related statements of activities, cash flows, and functional expenses for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Foundation's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Foundation as of December 31, 2009, and the results of its activities and cash flows for the year then ended in conformity with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.


Buckley & Sitzman CPA's

March 10, 2010
Lincoln, Nebraska

Great Platte River Road Memorial Foundation
Statement of Financial Position
December 31, 2009

Assets

Current Assets:

Cash and Cash Equivalents:

Unrestricted--Non-designated	\$	28,949
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Unexpired Insurance Premiums		29,302
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Inventory		14,339
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Total Current Assets	\$	72,590
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Land, Structures, Exhibits, Trademarks & Equipment	\$46,985,202		
Less: Allowance for Amortization & Depreciation	18,075,701		28,909,501

Insurance Claim Proceeds on Deposit		432,283
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Escrowed Funds		45,311
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Total Assets	\$	29,459,685
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Liabilities and Net Assets

Current Liabilities:

Accounts Payable	\$	24,344
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Sales/Use Tax Assessment Payable - Current		718
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Bonds Payable - Current (Forbearance)		-
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Insurance Claim Proceeds Unused		432,283
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Accrued Interest Payable		526,086
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Other Accrued Liabilities		15,900
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Total Current Liabilities	\$	999,331
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Bonds Payable	\$21,644,019		
Less: Due Within One Year - Current (Forbearance)	-		21,644,019

Total Liabilities	\$	22,643,350
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Net Assets:

Unrestricted--Non-designated	\$	6,816,335
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Total Net Assets	\$	6,816,335
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Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$	29,459,685
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See Accompanying Notes to Financial Statements

Great Platte River Road Memorial Foundation
Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended December 31, 2009

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Total</u>
Revenues:			
Facility Ticket, Programs & Gift Shop Sales	\$ 723,325	\$ -	\$ 723,325
Contributions/Grants	212,465	-	212,465
Sponsorships/Project Funding	32,313		32,313
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total Revenues	\$ 968,103	\$ -	\$ 968,103
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Operating Expenses:			
Facility	\$ 986,685	\$ -	\$ 986,685
Fundraising	644	-	644
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 987,329	\$ -	\$ 987,329
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net Operating Income(Loss)	\$ (19,226)	\$ -	\$ (19,226)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Non-operating Income/(Expense):			
Depreciation/amortization	\$ (1,883,276)	\$ -	\$ (1,883,276)
Interest Expense	(131,522)	-	(131,522)
Interest Income	1,064	-	1,064
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total Non-operating Income/(Expense)	\$ (2,013,734)	\$ -	\$ (2,013,734)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Increase(Decrease) in Net Assets	\$ (2,032,960)	\$ -	\$ (2,032,960)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	\$ 8,849,295	\$ -	\$ 8,849,295
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net Assets - End of Year	\$ 6,816,335	\$ -	\$ 6,816,335
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

See Accompanying Notes to Financial Statements

Great Platte River Road Memorial Foundation
Statement of Cash Flows
For the Year Ended December 31, 2009

Cash Flows from Operating Activities:	
Decrease in net assets	\$ (2,032,960)
Adjustments to reconcile decrease in net assets to net cash used in operating activities:	
Depreciation/amortization	1,883,276
Decrease/(Increase) in:	
Inventory	3,550
Other Current & Non-current Assets	(14,056)
Increase/(Decrease) in:	
Accounts Payable	5,835
Other Accrued Liabilities	136,546
Net Cash Used by Operating Activities	<u>\$ (17,809)</u>
Cash Flows from Investing Activities:	
Purchases of land, structures, exhibits, trademarks & equipment	<u>\$ (23,353)</u>
Net Cash Used by Investing Activities	<u>\$ (23,353)</u>
Cash Flows from Financing Activities:	
Repayment on bonds payable	<u>\$ -</u>
Net Cash Used by Financing Activities	<u>\$ -</u>
Net Decrease in Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$ (41,162)
Cash & Cash Equivalents-Beginning of Year	<u>70,111</u>
Cash & Cash Equivalents-End of Year	<u>\$ 28,949</u>
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information -	
Cash paid during the year for interest	<u>-</u>

See Accompanying Notes to Financial Statements

Great Platte River Road Memorial Foundation
Statement of Functional Expenses
For the Year Ended December 31, 2009

	<u>Facility</u>	<u>Fundraising</u>	<u>Total</u>
Salaries, Outside Help & Benefits	\$ 314,329	\$ -	\$ 314,329
Advertising	16,447	-	16,447
Insurance	127,411	-	127,411
Professional Fees	19,894	-	19,894
Cost of Sales - Gift Shop & Tickets	201,858	-	201,858
Repairs & Maintenance	83,091	-	83,091
Utilities	128,602	-	128,602
Other	<u>95,053</u>	<u>644</u>	<u>95,697</u>
	<u>\$ 986,685</u>	<u>\$ 644</u>	<u>\$ 987,329</u>

See Accompanying Notes to Financial Statements

Great Platte River Road Memorial Foundation
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2009

(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The Great Platte River Road Memorial Foundation (the Foundation) was incorporated as a nonprofit corporation on June 14, 1996 to memorialize the history of the Great Platte River Road (the Road) by providing educational materials, facilities, and programs that will demonstrate the Road's significance in the settlement and continuing development of the American West. The Foundation will achieve these goals through the operation of the Great Platte River Road Archway Monument (the Archway). The Archway officially opened on June 9, 2000. A summary of the more significant accounting policies followed by the Foundation is as described below:

(a) Basis of Presentation

The Foundation maintains its accounts in accordance with the principles and practices of fund accounting. Fund accounting is the procedure by which resources for various purposes are classified for accounting and reporting purposes in accordance with activities or objectives specified by the donors. Separate accounts are maintained for each fund. The financial statements of the Foundation, which have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting, have been prepared to focus on the Foundation as a whole.

(b) Financial Statement Format

The Foundation reports amounts for its total assets, liabilities, and net assets in a statement of financial position, the changes in its net assets in the statement of activities, and the changes in its cash and cash equivalents in a statement of cash flows.

(c) Net Assets Classifications

Net assets and revenues, expenses, gains and losses are classified based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions. Accordingly, net assets and the changes therein are classified as follows:

Unrestricted - Net assets and contributions not subject to donor-imposed stipulations. Unrestricted net assets include investments designated by the Board to function as endowments and realized gains on investments and interest and dividend income on permanently restricted endowments which are not stipulated for permanent reinvestment by the donor or law. Some unrestricted funds have been designated by the Board for specific uses.

Temporarily restricted - Net assets and contributions subject to donor-imposed stipulations that may or will be met by actions of the Foundation and/or the passage of time. After the donor-imposed time or purpose restriction is satisfied, temporarily restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets and reported within the statement of activities as net assets released from restrictions.

**Great Platte River Road Memorial Foundation
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2009**

(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Cont'd)

(d) Revenue Recognition

Revenues are reported as increases in unrestricted net assets unless use of the related assets is limited by donor-imposed restrictions. Expenses are reported as decreases in unrestricted net assets. Expirations of temporary restrictions on net assets (i.e., the donor-stipulated purpose has been fulfilled and/or the stipulated time period has elapsed) are reported as reclassifications between the applicable classes of net assets. Donor restrictions satisfied within the same year are reported as unrestricted revenues and expenses.

(e) Donations

Donations, including unconditional promises to give, due in future periods, are recognized as revenues in the period received. Donations of cash, property, and equipment received without donor-imposed restrictions are reported as revenues of the unrestricted net asset class.

(f) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash and investments with an original maturity of three months or less when purchased.

(g) Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management of the Foundation to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets, liabilities, and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

(h) Land, Structures, Exhibits, Trademarks & Equipment

Land, structures, exhibits, and equipment are recorded at cost or at fair market value at date of contribution. Depreciation is recorded on a straight-line basis over their estimated lives of the assets beginning on the date the assets are placed into service. The estimated useful lives of the assets are as follows:

Equipment - 5 years
Trademarks - 15 years
Exhibits & Land Improvements - 10 years
Structures - 39 years

Great Platte River Road Memorial Foundation
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2009

(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Cont'd)

(j) Functional Expenses

The costs of the activities of the Foundation have been summarized on a functional basis in the statement of functional expenses. Accordingly, certain costs have been allocated among the activities performed.

(k) Revenue Recognition

Revenues are recognized when admission tickets and merchandise are sold.

(l) Inventories

Inventories of gift shop merchandise are recognized at its current cost, which is not significantly different than its original cost.

(m) Sales Tax

Sales taxes collected and remitted are netted in a liability account and only any collection fees are included in income.

(2) Tax Exempt Status

The Foundation is exempt from Federal income tax under Section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC), as an organization described in IRC Section 501(c)(3). Income from activities unrelated to the exempt purpose of the Foundation would be subject to tax at normal corporate income tax rates. The Foundation had no material unrelated business income in 2009. Management believes it is operating in a manner consistent with its tax-exempt status.

(3) Land, Structures, Exhibits, Trademarks & Equipment

Land, structures, exhibits, trademarks and equipment consist of the following at December 31, 2009:

Land	\$ 510,686
Land Improvements	221,702
Structures	36,693,269
Exhibits	8,786,888
Trademarks	295,165
Equipment	500,845
Total	<u>\$ 46,985,202</u>

Great Platte River Road Memorial Foundation
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2009

(4) Escrow Funds

An escrow agreement was entered into on July 9, 2003 with the Nebraska Department of Roads (DOR), the Foundation and the Platte Valley State Bank, Kearney, Nebraska (Bank). This agreement calls for a total escrow of \$555,000 be established by payment of \$1,000/month from the Foundation, commencing August of 2003. At December 31, 2009, there was \$45,311 held in this escrow account.

(5) Bonds Payable

Bonds payable at December 31, 2009 are summarized as follows:

Bond (Interest Bond) due September 1, 2012 that bears interest at 8%, payable on September 1 of each year, commencing September 1, 2003.

\$ 1,644,019

Bond (Zero Coupon Bond) due September 1, 2012 that bears no interest, except at 8% after the date of default.

20,000,000

The Interest Bond requires payments of \$72,000 each June 30, July 31, & August 25 through the year 2012. There is a provision for early payment credits and the Foundation is required to maintain sufficient funding to pay insurance and real estate taxes when due. The interest payments due in 2006 - 2009 are in default and are accrued, as payable, at December 31, 2009.

See Note 9 – Forbearance Agreement.

(6) Designated/Restricted Net Assets

There are no Board designated or donor restricted net assets at December 31, 2009.

(7) Archway Foundation

The Archway Foundation is a non-profit qualified charity that accepts donations for the benefit of this foundation. This foundation had contributions in 2009 from various private and public donors in the amount of \$252,798. This foundation paid \$235,836 to/or for the benefit of the Foundation in 2009.

Great Platte River Road Memorial Foundation
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2009

(8) Lease

The Foundation participates in an operating lease with the State of Nebraska, Department of Roads for the air space over and above Interstate 80. The lease has an initial thirty-year term with an option to renew for two additional ten-year terms.

This lease was amended in 2004, effective January 1, 2003, to change the annual payment from \$19,125 to \$15,300.

Future minimum lease payments under this lease as of December 31, 2008 are as follows:

Year 2010	\$ 15,300
Year 2011	15,300
Year 2012	15,300
Year 2013	15,300
Year 2014	15,300
Thereafter	<u>198,900</u>
	<u>\$ 275,400</u>

Under terms of the lease agreement, additional lease payments may be due and will be derived from a formula based on gross revenues.

Lease expense for this operating lease for the year ended December 31, 2009 was \$ 15,300.

(9) Forbearance Agreement

A forbearance agreement (Agreement) was entered into, effective December 31, 2006, between the bond indenture trustee (Trustee) and the Foundation. This Agreement was a result of the default of the Foundation for failure to make payments, as required, in 2006 and it's non-ability to make them in the foreseeable future. Interest payments were also not paid in 2007, 2008 and 2009.

The terms of the bonds payable continue with the trustee's agreed forbearance to not accelerate it's rights and remedies in connection with default. There are various conditions to be met by the Foundation for this forbearance to continue.

The Foundation's 2010 budget is projected, based on expected grants/contributions, to be positive.

**Great Platte River Road Memorial Foundation
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2009**

(11) Community Volunteers

The surrounding communities are committed to the Archway by having provided approximately 2,542 hours of volunteer services in 2009.

(12) Property Insurance Claim

The Archway structure sustained damage from a storm in the summer of 2008. Insurance claim proceeds of \$1,000,000 were received in 2008 and \$344,779 was expended for various repair and maintenance through December 31, 2008. Additional expenditures of \$222,938 were also made in 2009.

The Archway has ongoing negotiations with the insurance carrier concerning this claim and will continue to expend the proceeds for continuing repairs and maintenance. The unused insurance proceeds are deferred from income until the final expenditures are made.

The trustee has approved the use of these funds for these ongoing maintenance items and disburses these funds to the Foundation through an application and approval process.